MEDIA RELEASE

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE DAVID L. HUBER UNITED STATES ATTORNEY Western District of Kentucky

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BOWLING GREEN MAN SENTENCED TO 12 ½ YEARS FOR METHAMPHETAMINE MANUFACTURING AND POSSESSION OF PSEUDOEPHEDRINE

- Part of a husband/wife team

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that **RONNIE D. BRATCHER**, age 45, of 627 Pleasant Grove, Bowling Green, Kentucky, was sentenced in United States District Court, Bowling Green, Kentucky, for conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine, manufacturing methamphetamine, possession of pseudoephedrine with the intent to manufacture methamphetamine, conspiracy to possess methamphetamine with the intent to distribute, and possession of methamphetamine with the intent to distribute.

Thomas B. Russell, Judge, United States District Court, sentenced **Bratcher** to 12 years and 7 months imprisonment, plus 5 years supervised release following incarceration. **There is no parole** in the federal judicial system.

Bratcher had pled guilty by admitting that on or about and between October 17, 2004, and October 24, 2004, he possessed six grams of methamphetamine and more than 680 grams of pure pseudoephedrine, a list I chemical, with the intent to manufacture methamphetamine. The

pseudoephedrine and the methamphetamine was found in a hotel room in Horse Cave, Hart County,

Kentucky, and in a car belonging to **Bratcher** and his co-defendant wife that was parked outside the

hotel room. Bratcher's wife, Donna Bratcher, received ten years imprisonment at an earlier

sentencing for possession of pseudoephedrine with the intent to manufacture pseudoephedrine.

The street value of the methamphetamine seized and the methamphetamine potentially

manufactured from the pseudoephedrine seized is estimated to be \$30,000.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John E. Kuhn, Jr. and was

investigated by the Kentucky State Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

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